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IRLAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and the
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1957





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IRLAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillors S. DUNN, *Chairman*.

C. A. BORRINO, J.P., *Chairman of the Council*.

J. WINSKILL, *Vice-Chairman of the Council*.

A. DOWSON.

J. DUNN.

J. P. ENNIS, J.P., C.C.

D. HASLAM.

J. McLEAN, J.P.

H. MELIA.

J. SANDERSON.

J. P. STEWART

E. WRIGHT, M.B.E., J.P.

OFFICIALS AND STAFF

Medical Officer of Health—

W. J. ELWOOD, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,

Senior Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent—

*†L. HALL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:—

*H. DIXON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

*Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.

†Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Clerk—

MISS M. G. TOWNSEND.

Junior Clerk/Typist—

MISS K. WALTON.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1957

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Irlam Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Lady, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the health of the district during the year 1957. The report is drawn up in accordance with instructions issued by the Minister of Health and dated 13th January, 1958.

Full comment is made in the body of the report on the various vital statistics and there is little of a startling or extraordinary nature to which I have to draw your attention here. The year has been a very ordinary one in so far as the births and deaths, still-births and infant mortality are concerned.

In regard to infectious disease, however, the total number of cases notified has been very high indeed due mainly to the occurrence of both measles (423 cases) and sonne dysentery (171 cases). Although this latter disease is highly infectious, the symptoms are usually relatively mild, and there is little doubt that many cases are never notified at all. The germ, which is excreted from the bowel of a sufferer, is passed by the fingers to fellow school-children or other people at home through the medium of such things as lavatory seats, lavatory chains, doorknobs, pencils, toys, etc., or by direct contact. The spread of this disease can be prevented only by the provision in all our schools of adequate washing facilities with hot and cold running water, conveniently situated in relation to the sanitary accommodation, and by the use of such facilities by each pupil on every occasion he or she visits the toilet.

The practical disappearance of non-respiratory tuberculosis as a public health problem amply justifies the campaign for cleaner milk which occupied so much attention in pre-war years, and fittingly testifies to the effectiveness of pasteurisation. Clean safe milk, like clean water, is practically taken for granted by most

people, and now, with the coming into effect of the Clean Air Act, 1956, the time has come to devote our attention and energy to measures to improve the quality of the air which we have to breathe.

It is pleasing to note the formation during the year under report of the Irlam and Cadishead Old People's Welfare Committee. This voluntary body has assumed responsibility for the visiting of aged people, particularly those living alone. There is no doubt that a friendly visitor who is interested in the old people whom he visits and who calls on them regularly can do much to promote their health and happiness. I feel sure that this voluntary organisation can make a real contribution to the health of the district.

In conclusion I wish to record my appreciation of the loyal co-operation of Mr. L. Hall and the staff of the Public Health Department, and also of the support given to me by members of the Health Committee and by Officials of the Council.

I am,

Yours obediently,

WILLIS J. ELWOOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
IRLAM.

June, 1958.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (Statute Acres)	4,717
Population (Registrar General's Estimate, June, 1957)	14,880
Number of Inhabited Houses (per Rate Book) ...	4,719
Rateable value at 31st December, 1957	£170,624
Sum represented by a penny rate	£697 0s. 0d.
Total Rates in the £	18s. 7d.

2. VITAL STATISTICS

	Males	Females	Total
Live Births—Legitimate ...	118	77	195
Illegitimate ...	3	2	5
Stillbirths	4	1	5
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births ...			24.4
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population ...			13.4*
	Males	Females	Total
Deaths	79	64	143
Death rate per 1,000 population ...			9.6*
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births			Nil
Deaths of infants under one year of age ...			6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...			30
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births			10
Deaths from Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough			Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...			26

*Adjusted : Live birth rate (comparability factor 1.03)=13.8 per 1,000

Death rate (comparability factor 1.27)=12.2 per 1,000

PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL.

The county district of Irlam in Lancashire is roughly square in formation, with sides over three and a half miles long.

The district boundaries on the North march with those of Tyldesley, Worsley and Leigh, on the South with the Manchester Ship Canal, on the East with Eccles and on the West with the banks of the River Glaze.

The residents are thus provided with an area quasi-rural in character, which makes a relieving contrast to the industrial nature of the district on its southern borders.

A variety of industries is carried on in the district. The following list is a brief summary:—

Steel and iron works, soap works, margarine and lard manufactories, coal tips, tar works, basket works, general engineering and market gardening.

POPULATION.

The resident population of Irlam estimated by the Registrar General in mid 1957, was 14,880.

The excess of births over deaths during the year was 57.

In addition to the resident population large numbers from outside the district journey daily to and from the various works in the district.

BIRTHS.

Boys 121; Girls 79 ; Total 200.

The total number of births belonging to the district after the necessary adjustments for inward and outward transfers was 200.

This gave a birth rate of 13.4 per 1,000 of the population, as against 15.1 for the previous year.

The birth-rate per 1,000 of the population for the whole of England and Wales for 1957 was 16.1.

STILLBIRTHS

The number of registered stillbirths was 5, giving a rate per 1,000 total births of 24. The average for the years 1952-1956 was 26 per 1,000 total births.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

No maternal deaths occurred during the year 1957.

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were 6 deaths of infants under one year of age, 2 of which occurred within the first four weeks of life. The infant mortality rate was 30 per 1,000 live births. The rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 23.

The average infant mortality rate for the district for the years 1952-1956 was 34 per 1,000 live births.

The following table gives the number of infant deaths and the infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births for this district for the past ten years:

Year	Number of deaths	Infant mortality rate
1948	11	42
1949	8	31
1950	8	33
1951	6	32
1952	7	37
1953	8	37
1954	8	37
1955	4	20
1956	9	40
1957	6	30

DEATHS.

Males 79 ; Females 64 ; Total 143.

The total number of deaths belonging to the district after the necessary adjustments for inward and outward transfers was 143. This gave a death rate of 9.6 per 1,000 of the population compared with 9.3 in 1956.

The death-rate for the whole of England and Wales was 11.5 per 1,000 of the total population.

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND INQUESTS.

During the year there were 26 deaths (18 male, 8 female) in which the causes of death were certified after post mortem examination and/or coroner's inquests.

There were seven inquests held and the coroner's verdict was as follows:

Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1
All other accidents	...	...	...	1
Misadventure	...	...	...	1
Suicide	...	...	...	1
Manslaughter	...	...	...	2
Natural causes	...	...	...	1

CANCER

There were 26 deaths from this cause, 15 males and 11 females, giving a mortality rate of 1.75 per 1,000 of the population, the same as in the two previous years.

CLASSIFIED DEATHS FROM CANCER.

Localisation	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Bladder	1	1	—	—	—
Breast	7	3	1	2	2
Generative Organs	—	3	1	5	2
Intestinal Tract	4	5	3	4	7
Liver	—	2	3	2	—
Oesophagus	2	1	1	—	1
Pancreas	—	1	2	—	—
Larynx	—	—	—	2	—
Respiratory Organs	4	3	7	4	5
Stomach	5	6	6	5	7
Other or unspecified Organs	5	4	2	2	2
Totals	28	29	26	26	26
Deaths from all causes	165	171	157	139	143

Cancer is becoming more prominent as a cause of death, as the following figures show:

In 1931-1935	10.5%	of all deaths in the District were due to cancer.
In 1936-1940	11.9%	„ „ „ „ „ „ „
In 1941-1945	16.6%	„ „ „ „ „ „ „
In 1946-1950	17.8%	„ „ „ „ „ „ „
In 1951-1955	18.5%	„ „ „ „ „ „ „
In 1956	18.7%	„ „ „ „ „ „ „
In 1957	18.2%	„ „ „ „ „ „ „

In part this trend may be accounted for by the elimination or reduction of other causes of death; and in part it may be due to the fact that an increasing proportion of persons now survive to the time of life when they may become candidates for this disease. Nevertheless, there appears to be a very real increase in its incidence, and it is therefore imperative that medical advice should be sought by those in middle or later life if suspicious symptoms make their appearance.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES

Sixteen deaths were attributed to diseases of the respiratory system (excluding cancer) giving a death rate of 1.08 per 1,000 of the population the same as in the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS

Only three new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis (all males) were notified during the year 1957. Their ages were 19, 64, and 75 years respectively. No new cases of Non-respiratory Tuberculosis were notified.

There were no deaths from this disease.

Case rate per 1,000 population:			
	Respiratory 0.20	Non-respiratory 0.00	All forms 0.20
Death rate per 1,000 population:			
	Respiratory 0.00	Non-respiratory 0.00	All forms 0.00
England and Wales death rate per 1,000 population:			
	Respiratory 0.09	Non-respiratory 0.01	All forms 0.11

Particulars of new cases and of deaths from Tuberculosis during the past five years are given in the following table :

Year	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
1953	12	—	4	—
1954	12	2	2	—
1955	6	1	2	—
1956	8	1	1	—
1957	3	—	—	—

Thirteen cases received sanatorium treatment during the year. The notification of tuberculosis was satisfactory and it was not found necessary to take any action regarding cases of neglect or refusal to notify.

The small number of cases notified in 1957 and the absence of any deaths from this disease during the year is quite remarkable, and may well give rise to satisfaction.

The decline in both incidence and death rate is well shown in the following table:

	Case—rate per 1,000 population		Death—rate per 1,000 population	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
1936-40	0.90	0.54	0.48	0.09
1941-45	0.72	0.45	0.54	0.09
1946-50	0.67	0.20	0.21	0.04
1951-55	0.72	0.17	0.12	0.01
1956	0.54	0.07	0.07	0.00
1957	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The total number of cases of infectious disease notified was 667, the greater part of this large number being made up of measles (423 cases) and dysentery (171 cases). The outbreak of measles was not unexpected, and affected principally that age group which is usually involved most—the infant school children and their pre-school brothers and sisters.

Dysentery has visited the district on a comparable scale in only two previous years—in 1950 when 105 cases were recorded and in 1954 when there were 205 cases. The 171 cases in 1957, which were due to the sonne organism, included 86 schoolchildren, 27 pre-schoolchildren and 58 adults. The outbreak continued from April until mid-September.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination against Smallpox

This is advised at about 3 months of age. Infant vaccination gives a measure of protection to the individual for many years; should the disease be contracted subsequently it is generally in a modified form and a fatal issue is unlikely.

The following figures show the number of vaccinations done in the District during 1957 and the previous year:

			1957	1956
(a)	Number of primary vaccinations	... ..	133	84
(b)	Number of re-vaccinations	... ..	30	31
(c)	Number of infants under 1 year included in (a)		109	73

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Under arrangements made by the County Council, parents have the choice of having children immunised from the age of four months—

- (1) by a “triple” vaccine giving protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus;
- (2) by a “combined” vaccine against diphtheria and whooping cough;
- (3) against whooping cough only;
- (4) against diphtheria only;
- (5) against diphtheria and tetanus.

In the case of a “triple”, “combined”, or whooping cough immunisation, three injections are given at intervals of not less than one month.

These protective injections are given free of charge at Clinics and by general practitioners at their surgeries. The County Council pays a fee to general practitioners for sending in a record card containing particulars of these immunisations.

The following table shows the number of children who were immunised during the year:

	Primary	Reinforcing
Whooping Cough only	4	—
Diphtheria only	8	234
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough "combined"	6	—
Diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus "triple"	157	—
Diphtheria and Tetanus	3	—
Total diphtheria immunisations included above	174	234

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Under arrangements made by the County Council in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health, parents of children born in the years 1943-1957 inclusive were invited to register their children for vaccination with the newly produced British vaccine against poliomyelitis. Up to the end of the year a total of 1,088 Irlam children had been so registered since the inauguration of the scheme and the vaccination of 763 of them (by two injections) had been completed; 693 of these vaccinations were done during the year under report.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

Under arrangements made by the County Council, parents of children about to leave school may be invited to consent to their children being skin-tested for susceptibility to tuberculosis, and to their being vaccinated against tuberculosis with B.C.G. vaccine if the skin-test shows them to be susceptible to this disease. During 1957, 264 schoolchildren were skin-tested in this manner, 200 of them were found to be susceptible to tuberculosis, and 198 of them were vaccinated with B.C.G.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Under section 47 of this Act (amended in 1951) a local authority may apply to a Court for an Order for the compulsory removal to hospital or Part III accommodation of persons in need of care and attention, which they are unable to provide for themselves and which they are not receiving from other persons.

No case arose during the year in which it was necessary to take action under this section.

During the year two burials were carried out by the Council in accordance with section 50 of this Act.

GENERAL PROVISION OF OTHER HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

I. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE MANCHESTER REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

1. *Hospitals.*

There are no hospitals or nursing homes within the Urban District, which is served in the main by the undermentioned hospitals:

- (a) General—Salford Royal Hospital; Park Hospital, Davyhulme; Eccles and Patricroft Hospital.
- (b) Infectious Diseases—Ladywell Hospital, Salford.
- (c) Maternity—Park Hospital, Davyhulme; Hope Hospital, Salford.

2. *Tuberculosis Services.*

While certain aspects of this work, more particularly the domiciliary visiting of cases and contacts, come within the province of the Divisional Medical Officer, the Regional Hospital Board does provide the following:

- (a) Chest Clinic, Hope Hospital, Salford. New cases, referred by their family doctors, attend by appointment.
- (b) Mass Miniature Radiography Surveys are carried out periodically in the District by the Board's No. 4 Unit, which is based on Bolton.

3. *Venereal Diseases Clinic.*

St. Luke's Clinic, 11 Duke Street, Liverpool Road, Manchester 3. New cases should attend at the following times:

Monday	10-0 a.m.—12-30 p.m.
Tuesday	5-0 p.m.— 7-0 p.m.
Wednesday	2-0 p.m.— 4-30 p.m.
Thursday	5-0 p.m.— 7-0 p.m.
Friday	10-0 a.m.—12-30 p.m.
Saturday	10-0 a.m.—12-0 noon

II. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Irlam is one of the four constituent districts of Lancashire County Council Health Division No. 15 which in addition includes the Borough of Eccles, the Borough of Swinton and Pendlebury, and the Urban District of Worsley.

The services which are provided by the County Council are as follows:

- 1. Care of Mothers and Young Children: this includes ante-natal and child welfare clinics, dental care, distribution of welfare foods and day nurseries.

2. School Health Service.
3. Midwifery.
4. Health Visiting.
5. Home Nursing.
6. Vaccination and Immunisation.
7. Ambulance Service.
8. Prevention of illness, care and aftercare: this includes health education, loan of nursing equipment, and convalescence for those who have been ill.
9. Home Help Service.
10. Mental Health.
11. Arrangements for the welfare of blind, deaf and dumb, crippled and handicapped persons.
12. Provision of Residential Accommodation for the Aged and Infirm.

Your Medical Officer of Health, in his capacity as Divisional Medical Officer, is the Officer locally responsible for the administration of these services, and any enquiry in regard to them should be addressed to him: Dr. W. J. ELWOOD, D.P.H., DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER, LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, HEALTH DIVISION No. 15, 33 GREEN LANE, PATRICROFT.

A brief resumé of the above services as available to residents in Irlam is given below (and in the order in which they are named above):

Maternity and Child Welfare and School Health Service.

	Centre	Hours of attendance
Ante-Natal and Post Natal	Longfield Lodge, Liverpool Road, Cadishead.	Mon. 2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Child Welfare	1. Longfield Lodge, Liverpool Road, Cadishead.	Tues. 2 p.m.—4 p.m.
	2. Pensioners Hall, Liverpool Road, Irlam. (Shortly removing to 515-521 Liverpool Rd., Irlam.)	Wed. 2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Day Nursery	Fiddlers Lane, Irlam.	Monday to Friday 7 a.m.—6 p.m.
Dental	Longfield Lodge, Liverpool Road, Cadishead.	By appointment.
Immunisation	Longfield Lodge, Liverpool Road, Cadishead.	By appointment.
Minor Ailments	Longfield Lodge, Liverpool Road, Cadishead	School Medical Officer in attendance Thursday, 9-30 a.m.—11-30 a.m.

Ophthalmic	Longfield Lodge, Liverpool Road, Cadishead.	Cases referred by School Medical Officer.
Orthopaedic	Longfield Lodge, Liverpool Road, Cadishead.	Cases referred by School Medical Officer.
Orthoptic	Green Lane, Patricroft.	Cases referred by School Medical Officer.
Speech Therapy	Green Lane, Patricroft.	Cases referred by School Medical Officer.

Midwifery.

The following are the names and addresses of the midwives practising in Irlam as at the date of writing:

	Telephone No.
Mrs. E. M. Hancock, 254 Liverpool Road, Cadishead.	Irlam 337
Miss M. L. Jordan, 44 Elsinore Avenue, Irlam.	Irlam 2049

Health Visitors.

The services of the following health visitors are available in Irlam as at the date of writing:

Miss A. M. Brunt, Longfield Lodge, Cadishead.	Irlam 196
Mrs. A. Crowther, Longfield Lodge, Cadishead.	Irlam 196.

Home Nurses.

The Home Nurses normally work under the direction of the family doctor. The names and addresses and telephone numbers of these nurses are:

Miss M. Douglas, 4 Roscoe Road, Irlam.	Irlam 2048.
Male Nurse:	
Mr. L. S. Lester, 10 Fletcher Avenue, Clifton.	Swinton 2503

Ambulance Service.

In an emergency anyone may call an ambulance, by going to the nearest telephone, lifting the receiver, and, when the operator answers, saying "Ambulance".

In non-urgent cases requests for ambulance transport can only be made by a doctor, midwife, responsible hospital official or dentist.

The telephone numbers are: Eccles 2666 or 3050.

III. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LANCASHIRE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Enquiries regarding these services should be addressed to the Secretary, Lancashire Executive Council, 42 West Cliff, Preston. Lists showing the names of family doctors, dentists, pharmacists and opticians who are under contract with the Council can be seen at any Post Office or Public Library.

IV. PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

1. Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester 10.
2. Public Health Laboratory, Regent Road, Salford 5.

V. SERVICES PROVIDED BY VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

The Irlam and Cadishead Old People's Welfare Committee (Hon. Secretary, Mr. Leslie W. Jones, B.E.M., 10 Turner Avenue, Irlam) provides a visiting service for old people, particularly those living alone. Other organisations which may help in meeting particular needs are:

Cripples Help Society, 5 Cross Street, Manchester 2.

Manchester and Salford Blind Aid Society, 30 Tonman Street, Manchester 3.

Irlam and Cadishead Welfare and After-Care Association, (Hon. Secretary, Mrs. A. Hunt, 28 Silver Street, Irlam).

Women's Voluntary Services, (Centre Organiser, Mrs. W. C. Higginson, Wash Farm, Liverpool Road, Irlam).

BYE-LAWS

Bye-laws with respect to the following matters have been made by the Council and are in operation from the dates shown :

Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	13th Oct., 1922
Parks and Pleasure Grounds...	...	...	...	...	...	5th April, 1927
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	1st Nov., 1949
Handling, wrapping, etc. of food	...	...	...	...	...	16th April, 1950
Building Bye-laws	...	...	...	...	...	14th Nov., 1953

TABLE I
IRLAM URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death for the Year 1957. Classified under the Headings of the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death.

No.	Causes of Death	Males	Females	Totals
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—
2	Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8	Measles	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	3	7
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	—	5
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2	2
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	5	10
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	1
16	Diabetes	—	2	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system... ..	13	13	26
18	Coronary disease, angina	18	12	30
19	Hypertension with heart disease	3	4	7
20	Other heart disease... ..	7	7	14
21	Other circulatory disease	1	4	5
22	Influenza	1	—	1
23	Pneumonia	2	1	3
24	Bronchitis	8	4	12
25	Other disease of respiratory system	—	—	—
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	—	—	—
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	3	9
33	Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
34	All other accidents	1	1	2
35	Suicide	—	1	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	2	—	2
	TOTALS	79	64	143

TABLE II
IRLAM URBAN DISTRICT
VITAL STATISTICS of WHOLE DISTRICT for 1957 and Previous Years

YEAR	Population Middle of Each Year	Live births		Deaths (all causes)		Still births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
		No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	Total			Rate per 1,000 live births
										No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	
1957	14,880	200	*13.4	143	*9.6	5	24	Nil	Nil	6	30	2	10
1956	14,880	224	15.1	139	9.3	4	18	Nil	Nil	9	40	7	31
1955	14,850	204	13.7	157	10.6	7	33	1	4.74	4	20	2	10
1954	14,880	214	14.4	171	11.5	5	23	Nil	Nil	8	37	7	33
1953	14,890	219	14.7	165	11.1	4	18	Nil	Nil	8	37	5	23
1952	14,950	190	12.7	157	10.5	8	40	Nil	Nil	7	37	4	21
Average 5 years 1952/56	—	—	14.1	—	10.6	—	26	—	0.95	—	34	—	23
Eng'd. & Wales, 1957	—	—	16.1	—	11.5	—	22.4	—	0.47	—	23	—	16.5

*Adjusted: Live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.03) = 13.8 per 1,000.
Death rate (comparability factor, 1.27) = 12.2 per 1,000.

TABLE III

IRLAM URBAN DISTRICT

Cases of INFECTIOUS DISEASE notified during the Year 1957, after corrections subsequently made.

Disease	Total No. Cases	Age Periods—Years								Ward Distribution				No. Cases which Rec'd Hosp. Treatin't	Total Deaths (Regist'r General)
		0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 and over	Irlam	Irlam Cen.	Cadis. Cen.	Cadis.	
Smallpox ...	—	—	1	3	8	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	8	—
Scarlet Fever ...	13	—	60	103	244	6	1	2	—	—	134	115	73	101	—
Diphtheria ...	423	7	5	3	16	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	4	17	—
Measles ...	27	2	—	1	4	—	—	5	5	5	3	8	4	7	—
Whooping cough ...	22	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia ...	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac: Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerp'l Pyrexia	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	171	7	11	9	55	31	9	28	12	9	75	66	11	19	—
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	4	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis:—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—
Respiratory	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mening. & C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	667	18	77	119	329	41	14	36	18	15	221	198	96	152	3

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year ended 31st December, 1957

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Irlam Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Lady, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Annual Report on the environmental health and cleansing services of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1957.

The framework of the report is similar to that of last year, embodying the necessary statistics and brief summaries on the various sections of the work of the department.

The work of the department takes no set pattern over the year, in fact to a large extent in a small district like ours the work is governed by the unforeseen. Such was the case in 1957 when for almost three months the major portion of the department's resources were employed in combating an outbreak of sonne dysentery.

The inclusion of a new clause in the conditions of licence for the storage of petroleum spirit and the introduction of the Petroleum Spirit (Conveyance by Road) Regulations, 1957, meant that much more time had to be devoted to this work.

The inspection of factories also took more time due to the curtailment of inspections during the previous year. Work on improving the standard of food premises continued throughout the year as did work in connection with Housing and Atmospheric Pollution.

The new Rent Act whilst increasing the work of the department did not come in the form of an avalanche as was expected—by and large the occupiers of tenanted houses appear to have taken a philosophical attitude towards the rent increases and apart from numerous enquiries and the issuing of forms there was no undue pressure on the department.

In the field of atmospheric pollution the year opened on a very encouraging note. Most of the steam raising plant had been brought up to a high standard of efficiency, the dust nuisance in the Central

Cadishead Ward was greatly improved, and complaints of smells in the Cadishead Ward were becoming less frequent. It appeared that, with the advent of the Clean Air Act, most of our troubles were over. It was, therefore, most exasperating when the introduction of a new metal recovery plant again covered part of the Central Cadishead Ward with dust. There is no doubt that our main difficulties and problems lie outside the normal pollution from the burning of bituminous fuels.

Once again it is pleasing to report that the public cleansing service maintained its high standard of efficiency during the year. The position regarding salvage collection is one of status-quo due to the imposed restriction on the disposal of waste paper.

Details of these matters are contained under the various headings of the report, so in conclusion I have to express my gratitude and appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, to Dr. Elwood, to my fellow officers, and to the Staff and Employees for their help and support throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

LESLIE HALL,

*Senior Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.*

OFFICE ROUTINE

No small part of the smooth working of the environmental health services in the district is due to accurate and comprehensive records kept in the office. Because of the wide field of activities covered by the inspectorial staff, this means a vast amount of work and many hours spent in extracting information from inspectors' journals, etc. The office staff must also have a knowledge of much of the legislation under which the work of the department is carried out.

During the year 1957 additional work was caused by the outbreak of sonne dysentery which involved the filling in of some six hundred forms regarding faeces samples in addition to office records etc. New records were also made regarding factories in the district and information in connection with Petroleum (Conveyance by Road) Regulations and testing of petrol tanks. The advent of the Rent Act meant a spate of new forms to be acquired and records to be kept.

I am pleased to say that great interest and keenness in public health work is shown by Miss Townsend and Miss Walton. All records were kept up to date and statistical returns were promptly dealt with.

FOOD INSPECTION

There are no slaughterhouses within the district. Butchers obtain their supplies mainly from the abattoirs at Manchester and Warrington.

In April, 1957, representatives of the Council attended a Conference to consider the proposals put forward by the Manchester City Council for a new abattoir and meat market at Phillips Park, Manchester. After ascertaining the views of various meat traders in the district and hearing the schemes outlined at the Conference no opposition was raised by the Council's representatives. There has been no further information on this matter since the Conference.

The following table shows the amount of foodstuffs condemned as being unfit for human consumption:

	lbs.	tins
Shoulder pork	30 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Cooked ham	13 $\frac{1}{8}$	
Pork luncheon meat ...	12	
Corned beef	12	
Jellied veal	6	
Minced meat loaf ... ..	...	5
Tinned vegetables ... ..	...	12
Tinned fruit ... ..	...	29

All condemned foodstuffs were disposed of with the household refuse on the controlled tip.

FOOD PREMISES

Number of Food Premises, by type of business, in district at end of year.

Type of Business	Number
General Grocers and Provision Dealers	43
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	20
Fishmongers	2
Meat Shops	19
Bakers and/or Confectioners	13
Fried fish shops	13
Sugar Confectioners, ice cream etc.	24
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments ...	40
Others	4

Number of Food Premises, by type of business, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, (excluding ice cream premises), and Section 14 of the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951

Type of Business	Food and Drugs Act Number	Lancs. C.C. Act Number
General grocers and provision dealers	2	—
Greengrocers and fruiterers	—	2
Meat shops	9	2
Bakers and/or confectioners	3	—

In 1956 all food traders were informed as to the degree by which their businesses and premises fell short of the standard required by the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. The main sphere of activity in this field during 1957 was in the nature of revisits in order to ascertain what the traders had done without undue pressure to bring their businesses up to the standard required. The general response was good and in most cases a genuine attempt has been made to comply with the regulations. The provision of a wash hand basin is without doubt the most contentious item. There has been little opposition to the principle but it has proved almost impossible to overcome the problem of siting and drainage, especially in premises which are also dwellings, where the shop consists of one room at the front and all the drainage is at the rear. In all cases where the wash basin could be fixed without difficulty and at moderate cost the work has been done without question.

There is no doubt that the standard of the food premises in the district is steadily rising.

The procedure of educating not only the food handlers but also the general public is a slow and laborious task. Not only is it slow

but it has to be continuous—any easing off and a corresponding back-slide is inevitable with a fair proportion of our food handlers. As I have said before the only sure way to improve and maintain a high standard is by regular routine inspections. Unfortunately these visits cannot always be as frequent as one would wish due to the enormous amount of additional work placed on the department by various new enactments.

The following table shows the position at the end of 1957 and gives details of work done during the year:

Contravention or Defect	Out- stand- ing 31st Dec., 1956	Found during 1957		Total found 1957	Total reme- died 1957	Writ- ten off Pre- mises closed etc.	Out- stand- ing 31st Dec., 1957
		Shop Pre- mises	Other Food Pre- mises				
Insufficient protection of food	33	1	1	2	23	2	10
Cleanliness of equip- ment	3	—	1	1	3	—	1
Drainage	1	1	—	1	1	—	1
Sanitary conveniences:							
No compartment ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
Cleanliness and repair	21	6	—	6	17	1	9
Lighting	48	1	—	1	30	3	16
Position and ventila- tion	3	—	1	1	4	—	—
Notice re washing of hands	81	1	2	3	61	3	20
Wash hand basin with hot and cold water ...	102	—	3	3	33	4	68
Soap and towels ...	24	—	2	2	17	1	8
First aid equipment ...	57	—	2	2	46	3	10
Accommodation for clothing	15	1	—	1	12	—	4
Sinks with hot and cold water	13	1	2	3	7	1	8
Lighting of food room	2	1	—	1	2	—	1
Ventilation of food room	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
Cleanliness of food room	29	2	3	5	22	—	12
Repair of food room ...	22	3	4	7	18	2	9
Accumulation of refuse	14	—	—	—	11	—	3
Provide dustbins ...	3	—	—	—	1	—	2
Name and address on vehicle	1	—	1	1	1	—	1
Totals	472	19	23	42	310	20	184

FOOD AND DRUGS.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the following details of samples taken under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 during 1957:

A total of 76 samples was obtained, consisting of 47 samples of milk (including one sample of Channel Islands milk) and 29 others, comprising:

2 Arrowroot.	1 Fever mixture.
2 Pork pies.	2 Pickles.
1 Fish paste.	1 Olive oil.
4 Flour.	1 Pork sausage.
2 Meat, canned.	1 Cooked meat sausages.
2 Ice lollies.	1 Ground ginger.
2 Glycerin.	1 Golden raising powder.
1 Orange drink.	1 Mincemeat.
1 Margarine.	1 Lard.
1 Dried fruit.	1 Shredded suet.

All the samples were submitted for analysis to the County Analyst and were reported to be genuine, with the exception of those listed below:

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
Ice lollies	Preservative included in list of ingredients but not named.	Manufacturers communicated with
Flour	Contained only 209 mgms. Creta Praeparata and 1.47 mgms. iron per 100 gms. of flour. (Limits are 235 to 390 mgms. Creta Praeparata and not less than 1.65 mgms. of iron per 100 gms. of flour.)	Manufacturers communicated with
Glycerin	Contained 1.1% excess water.	Vendor communicated with

ICE CREAM

There is now only one manufacturer of ice cream in the district. The standard of cleanliness maintained on these premises is very satisfactory. The general trend is to retail pre-packed ice cream distributed by bulk manufacturers from all types of businesses.

Thirty-seven premises are on the register for the retail sale of ice cream (including the manufacturer). These are made up as follows:

<i>Type of Business</i>	<i>Cadishead</i>	<i>Irlam</i>
General grocers and provision dealers	9	5
Bakers and/or confectioners ...	2	—
Sugar confectioners, ice cream, etc.	5	13
Licensed premises, snack bars, etc.	2	1



37

Seventy-eight visits were made to the aforementioned premises during the year in connection with the storage of ice cream. The temperature of the ice cream was continually checked both in the shops and on vehicles coming in from other districts. In every case the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations were complied with.

MILK AND DAIRIES

No. of registered distributors operating from:-

(a) Dairies in the district	...	...	...	...	3
(b) Shops in the district other than dairies...	...	...	...	...	29
(c) Premises outside the district	...	...	...	...	4

The following licences were issued during the year :

Tuberculin Tested—	Dealers	...	...	...	3
	Supplementary	...	...	...	2
Pasteurised—	Dealers	...	...	...	7
	Supplementary	...	...	...	2
Sterilised—	Dealers	...	...	...	32
	Supplementary	...	...	...	2

Since the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) No. 3 Order, 1953, came into force only designated milk is retailed in the district. Furthermore nearly all the milk consumed in our area is supplied by four large wholesale dairies and is brought into the district ready bottled.

After checking with the County Sanitary Officer it was found that there was a great duplication of sampling and it was felt that in order to cut out this duplication and to relieve the pressure of work at the laboratory, this work, at least for the time being, should be left to the County Sanitary Officer. This arrangement does not preclude us from obtaining samples should the need arise but is merely an effort to prevent the waste of time and manpower.

HOUSING

Local housing conditions may be considered satisfactory. There are no back to back houses or congested areas. The general standard of the property in the district is good and the state of repair of tenanted houses is now better than at any period in the past. This may be attributed to the unabating pressure resulting not only in getting work done by notice, but by stimulating an understanding and co-operation with the owners. The introduction of the Rent Act has played no mean part in raising the standard of repair.

Work on the inspection of unfit houses was curtailed during the year due to the Council's inability to rehouse until the summer of 1958.

The following table shows the position at the end of 1957:

	Ori- ginal No. to be dealt with	Property declared unfit			Families rehoused		Property not now used for habitation No action required	Property im- proved up to a reason- able stan- dard	Out- stand- ing 31st Dec., 1957
		Demo- lition orders	Closing orders		By coun- cil	Pri- vately			
			By notice	volun- tary					
Five year plan	111	27	—	1	5	3	5	21	57
Not in- cluded in ori- ginal list	—	3	1	—	3	—	—	—	—
Totals	111	30	1	1	8	3	5	21	57

Four unfit houses were demolished during the year.

OVERCROWDING

At the end of the year there were two known cases of overcrowding in the district. The additional case was caused by a natural increase in the family concerned.

RENT ACT, 1957

THE RENT RESTRICTIONS REGULATIONS, 1957.

The coming into force of these regulations on 6th July, 1957 marked the beginning of a new era in the conflict between landlord and tenant, and, as with most conflicts others are bound to be involved, the Council and in particular the Public Health Department have not escaped. The work of the department was greatly increased mainly in an advisory capacity in the early stages. There is no doubt that the array of forms associated with this Act completely baffled the general public and the Council's decision to issue "G" forms (Notice by tenant to landlord of defects of repair) on personal application was greatly appreciated. General advice was given on the filling in of the forms but actual filling in was left entirely to the tenant concerned. In all 295 "G" forms were issued free of charge from the office. Of the 295 people who obtained these forms only 18 applied for "I" forms (Application by tenant for Certificate of Disrepair) and again of this number only 14 actually applied for a certificate of disrepair. Up to the end of the year 11 "J" forms (Notice by Local Authority to Landlord of Proposal to

issue a Certificate of Disrepair) were served as a result of which 8 undertakings to carry out the repairs were received from the owners concerned.

The inference to be drawn from these figures is that either the owners are giving the required undertakings to remedy the defects enumerated or that after serving the "G" forms the tenants have not continued the action. In the main the owners have given the undertakings or have done the work in the specified period.

COMPLAINTS

298 complaints were received and investigated during the year. The following is a summary of the complaints:

Accumulations	...	...	...	11
Animals so kept	...	...	...	5
Atmospheric pollution	...	...	...	11
Burst water pipes	...	...	...	3
Gypsies ...	...	...	...	1
Housing defects	...	...	...	80
Houses dirty	...	...	...	1
Infestations cockroaches, etc.	...	...	...	58
Obstructed or defective drains	...	...	...	35
Overcrowding	...	...	...	3
Rats and mice	...	...	...	75
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	15

The total number of visits made in connection with complaints received (including revisits) was 1,288.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

NUISANCES ABATED AND WORK DONE

Arising out of complaints under the Public Health Act, 1936, (included under the previous heading) 68 informal and 68 statutory notices were served during the year. Of the 68 statutory notices 46 were in connection with drainage work and 22 for housing defects. On no occasion was it necessary to resort to legal proceedings for the enforcement of these notices. The following statement gives details of work carried out under the supervision of the department:

HOUSING

Rising dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	15
House walls repaired (pointing, etc.)	...	...	...	...	31
Ceilings and walls replastered	...	...	...	...	21
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	19
Chimneys (flashings, etc.) repaired	...	...	...	...	8
Eavesgutters and rainwater downspouts repaired or renewed...	...	...	...	...	44
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	17

Sub-floor ventilation provided	2
Skirting boards repaired	2
Dresser Lights renewed or repaired	3
Window frames and sash cords repaired or renewed ...	26
Window sills repaired	13
Doors repaired	7
Stairs repaired	2
Firegrates repaired or renewed	13
Paths repaired or relaid	1
Yard surfaces relaid	1
Yard walls repaired	1
Bursts repaired	3
Miscellaneous	8

DRAINAGE

Choked drains and public sewers cleansed	26
Drains repaired or reconstructed	14
Soil pipes repaired or renewed	5

SANITARY FITTINGS AND AMENITIES

Sinks provided	4
Sink and bath waste pipes repaired	4
Cisterns repaired	6
Water closet compartments repaired and cleansed	19
New water closet pedestals fixed	3
Water closet seats provided	3
Lavatory basin provided	1

MISCELLANEOUS

Accumulations removed	4
Dirty houses cleansed	1

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There is one site for two caravans licensed under the provision of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Apart from one case, involving the unauthorised parking of two caravans at the rear of Moss Lane, Cadishead, which were subsequently moved, no difficulties were encountered in the enforcement of this section of our duties.

WATER SUPPLY

With the exception of nine properties in the Glazebury Moss area, which are supplied by the Warrington Corporation, the whole of the Urban District is served by the mains of Manchester Corporation Waterworks Department. The supply is constant and all premises are supplied direct from the mains.

WATER COURSES.

The natural water courses in the district are the Glaze Brook, which is the boundary of the district on the west; Platts Brook, Irlam; and a section of the old bed of the River Irwell. In addition to these there are many irrigation ditches on the moss area.

During the year the work of re-aligning the Glaze Brook in the Lords Street area was completed. The condition of Platts Brook is still unsatisfactory and gives cause for concern.

Apart from routine inspections for general condition and rodent control it was not found necessary to take any action with regard to these water courses.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Apart from a few isolated houses on the moss area, all properties are connected to the sewers.

The sewage is received and dealt with at the Council's sewage works situated at Lords Street, Cadishead, where it is treated by the Activated Sludge method prior to discharge into the River Glaze.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The following approximate particulars are given of conveniences in the district at the end of 1957 :—

No. of fresh-water closets	...	...	...	...	5,656
No. of waste-water closets	...	...	...	...	1
No. of pail-closets	...	...	...	...	52
No. of privy-middens	...	...	...	...	2

The majority of the pail closets are situated on the moss area and are attended to by the occupiers.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee and Senior Public Health Inspector were appointed the Council's representatives on the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee. Your inspector was re-elected as a Member of the North West Divisional Council of the National Smoke Abatement Society. (Now the National Society for Clean Air.)

The scheme for recording obnoxious smells in the lower end of Cadishead was continued during the first four months of the year. The original number of observers was increased from four to eight in order to cover a wider area. The results of the second period of six months may be briefly summarised as follows:

Total number of days involved (1-11-56—30-4-57)	181
Total number of days when no offensive smell was recorded	65
Total number of days when offensive smells were recorded	116

On 48 days only one of the eight observers recorded smells and on 68 days smells were recorded by two or more observers.

The types of smell were classified under the following headings:

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|---------------|
| A | Bad eggs (sulphuretted hydrogen). | D | Gas. |
| B | Carbolic. | E | Sewage. |
| C | Poli-sulphur. | F | Pitch or tar. |

The following table shows the number of days on which each smell was recorded. On 52 days of the 116 when complaints were made more than one smell was named:

					Number of days	... Complaints
A	...	...	...	...	40	56
B	...	...	...	...	4	5
C	...	...	...	...	79	121
D	...	...	...	...	24	32
E	...	...	...	...	12	12
F	...	...	...	...	34	43
Unknown	...	...	...	...	3	3

There is no doubt that, whilst the Council had no authority to take action on any of the findings, the results were well worth while. The firms concerned have made a genuine effort to improve conditions in the area.

After having had the satisfaction of reporting for some time that conditions in the Cadishead Central Ward were improving due to improved and additional dust arrestors on the Tar Macadam Plant at the Lancashire Steel Manufacturing Company Ltd., conditions were again reversed, not from the old plant, but from an entirely new source in the form of redevelopment and the siting of a metal recovery plant in this area. After a meeting between residents in Atherton Lane, a representative from the Steel Works, and Members of the Council an assurance was given that everything possible would be done to abate the nuisance. Towards the end of the year there was an improvement although conditions were far from satisfactory.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION JOINT SCHEME CARRINGTON/PARTINGTON AREA

The Council is a constituent member of the Standing Conference of local authorities concerned with the investigation of pollution of the atmosphere in this and surrounding areas. The other authorities in the scheme are Altrincham M.B., Bowdon U.D., Bucklow R.D., Eccles M.B., Sale M.B., Stretford M.B., and Urmston U.D.

In the Irlam district there are four lead peroxide apparatus for the measurement of sulphur dioxide—these are sited at Princes Park, Railway View Farm, Council Sewage Works (resited for 1958), and Woodside Farm—and one deposit gauge sited at the Sewage Works. This has also been resited, with the peroxide apparatus from the Sewage Works, in the grounds of the Cadishead Secondary Modern School, Allotment Road, Cadishead.

The tables on the following page briefly summarise the results of observations taken in 1957 and comparisons with previous years.

Table I
Monthly estimation during 1957 of Sulphur Dioxide expressed
as mgms. SO₂/day/100 cm² Batch A PbO₂

Site	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Princes Park...	3.02	2.61	2.05	1.63	1.66	1.55	1.40	1.04	1.27	1.86	2.54	3.24
Railway View Farm	2.04	2.19	2.36	1.58	1.32	1.18	0.96	0.97	1.38	1.57	2.84	2.84
Sewage Works	1.66	1.78	1.69	1.52	1.41	1.64	0.95	0.98	1.29	1.21	2.18	1.99
Woodside Farm	1.29	1.45	1.46	1.14	1.00	0.89	0.70	0.66	0.89	0.92	1.84	1.76

Table II
Mean results of the estimation of Sulphur Dioxide expressed as
mgms SO₃/day/100 cm² Batch A PbO₂ for our area since 1948.

Site	Summer					Winter				Year			
	1948/53	1954	1955	1956	1957	1948/54	1954/5	1955/6	1956/7	1948/54	1954/5	1955/6	1956/7
	1.07 0.85 0.96 0.64	1.33 1.06 1.16 0.80	1.35 1.23 1.24 0.87	1.36 1.28 1.41 0.98	1.43 1.23 1.30 0.88	2.61 1.94 1.95 1.38	2.77 1.79 2.54 1.91	2.68 2.70 2.32 2.00	2.43 2.16 1.79 1.40	1.64 1.35 1.31 0.98	2.74 2.43 1.78 1.33	2.07 2.00 1.80 1.47	1.89 1.72 1.60 1.19
Princes Park ... Railway View Farm Sewage Works ... Woodside Farm ...													

Table III
Estimation of Deposited Matter by deposit gauge
Average monthly deposited matter = tons per square mile
Period: October, 1955—September, 1957

Site	Rain (inches)	pH value	Insoluble matter	Soluble Matter	Total solids
Sewage Works					
Winter 1955/56	...	5.2	6.09	6.39	12.48
" 1956/57	...	4.6	4.75	6.47	11.22
Summer 1956	...	5.0	6.48	9.16	15.64
" 1957	...	5.5	5.59	5.81	11.40
Year 1955/56	...	5.4	6.90	5.56	12.46
" 1956/57	...	4.8	5.61	7.81	13.42

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The 247 shops in the district are evenly divided between Irlam and Cadishead, the figures being 123 and 124 respectively. During the year 465 visits were made to these premises and the provisions of the Act were found to be satisfactorily complied with.

The Irlam Urban District, having a population of less than 20,000 is not a "local authority" for the purpose of the Act but being a sanitary authority we are responsible for the provisions relating to ventilation, temperature, and sanitary accommodation. We do however act as agents for the Lancashire County Council and inspect the shops checking on matters relating to young persons and shop assistants etc. on their behalf. The section dealing with Closing Hours is operated directly by the Lancashire County Council.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The sections of this Act and the Regulations made thereunder which are the responsibility of the local authority, namely those dealing with sanitary accommodation in all factories and overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, etc. in non-mechanical factories, are among the most important of our duties. The work is of a routine nature and, when pressure of other work is great, is unfortunately left to another day. Such was the case in 1956 when work on food premises and housing retarded other routine work, including factory inspection.

In the year under review an effort was made to remedy this and all factories were inspected with the following result:

Table 1. Details of factories visited and notices served.

Premises, etc.	Number on register 31-12-57	Number inspections 1957	Number notices served 1957
Mechanical factories ...	40	109	19
Non-mechanical factories ...	1	3	1
Building sites, etc. ...	17	37	3
Outworkers ...	2	3	1
Totals ...	60	152	24

Table 2. Details of Contraventions found and remedied which were included in the notices served.

Contraventions and Defects	Out- stand- ing 31st Dec., 1956	Total found in 1957		Remedied 1957	Written off Factory closed	Out- stand- ing 31st Dec., 1957
		Sani- tary accom- moda- tion	Other			
No sanitary accommodation provided	—	3	—	3	—	—
Structural repairs	2	5	—	2	—	5
Defective water closets and flushing systems, etc. ...	—	10	—	5	—	5
Lack of cleanliness	1	10	—	8	—	3
Decorating required	2	28	—	13	1	16
Inadequate lighting	1	9	—	4	1	5
Absence of intervening ven- tilated space	—	3	—	1	—	2
No water closet compart- ment provided	—	1	—	—	—	1
Absence doors and/or locks	3	33	—	15	—	21
No notice re sex provided ...	—	1	—	—	—	1
List of outworkers to be submitted	—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals	9	103	1	51	2	60

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTIONS

Owing to an outbreak of sonne dysentery, details of which have been reported on by Dr. Elwood, work on this branch of our activities was much heavier than usual occupying the greater part of your inspectors' time for a period of three months. The following are details of visits made and disinfections, etc. Other

		Dysentery Infectious		Total	
		Outbreak	Diseases		
Visits to households	332	...	13	...	345
Visits to Irlam Day Nursery ...	4	...	5	...	9
Visits to food premises	14	...	—	...	14
Visits to Public Health Laboratory	110	...	—	...	110
Library books disinfected	90	...	25	...	115
Number of outfits distributed ...	675	...	10	...	685
Number specimens submitted to Public Health Laboratory	670	...	10	...	680
Visits to schools	4	...	—	...	4
Number rooms fumigated	—	...	8	...	8
Bedding disinfected	—	...	1	...	1
Bedding destroyed	—	...	3	...	3

Rooms are fumigated with Formaldehyde after the patient has been removed to hospital, or if nursed at home, when the patient is certified free from infection. The library books are also fumigated with Formaldehyde prior to returning to general use.

When cases of infectious disease occur supplies of disinfectant are issued free if applied for by the householder.

MORTUARY

The mortuary which is situated at the rear of the Council Offices is maintained by the department. As a general routine it is cleansed weekly and after each use. The mortuary attendant is also responsible for maintaining supplies of clean sheets, soap and towels, and rubber gloves, etc., for the use of the doctors conducting post mortem examinations.

The mortuary has been in use on 15 occasions during the year. The details are as follows :

Cause of death	Number
Natural causes	12
Accidental death	1
Manslaughter	1
Part unidentifiable body found in Canal—unknown	1

DISINFESTATION

The work of disinfestation is one of the duties allocated to the rodent operative, working under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector. The following infestations were dealt with during the year:

Cockroaches	47
Woodbeetle	13
Ants	12
Silverfish	5
Ptinus Tectus	1
Blue Bottles	2
Snails	1
House fly	2
Steam fly	1
Fleas	2

All infestations were successfully treated with Zaldecide or Gammexane.

RODENT CONTROL

Again the report is one of steady progress. The incidence of rat infestation has remained fairly static over the past few years indicating that the present level appears to be the minimum for our district with normal control. In spite of the number of treatments

carried out for the eradication of mice in private dwellings the number of infestations shows no sign of decreasing.

Periodic testing of the district's sewers was carried out during the year. There were no signs of infestation.

A close watch was kept on threshing activities under the provisions of The Prevention of Damage by Pests (Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks) Regulations, 1950, and the requirements of the Regulations were fully complied with.

The following table shows the statistics of work done during the year:

	Type of Property			
	Non-Agricultural			Agri- cultural
	Local Author- ity	Dwelling houses only	All other pre- mises	
Number of properties in district...	17	4,526	685	69
Number of properties inspected...	17	97	145	41
Total inspections carried out (in- cluding re-inspections) ...	61	111	172	136
Number of properties inspected which were found to be in- fested by: Rats — Major ...	—	—	1	—
Minor ...	9	42	12	7
Mice — Major ...	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	7	49	17	—
Number of infested properties treated	16	87	23	7
Total treatments carried out (including re-treatments) ...	36	95	33	7
Number of 'block' control schemes carried out	—	3	—	—

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928—1957

The number of licences to store petroleum spirit granted during the year was 28. The licences issued were as follows:

Not exceeding 100 gallons	...	...	...	...	2
Exceeding 100 and not exceeding 500 gallons	...				15
Exceeding 500 and not exceeding 1,000 gallons	...				6
Exceeding 1,000 and not exceeding 5,000 gallons	...				2
Exceeding 50,000 gallons	...	...	...	...	3

One licence to store 4 tons of Carbide of Calcium was issued. The income from the licences was £29 15s. 0d.

There were two outstanding additions to this little known section of the work of the Public Health Department during 1957 and 88 visits of inspection were made to installations in the district.

Firstly there was the inclusion by the Council in the conditions of licence of a clause requiring the testing of all existing petrol storage tanks which have been in use for over twenty years and regular testing thereafter at stated periods. This meant the checking of all installations in the district and arranging for the testing of those over twenty years old. The survey revealed that of the 32 underground storage tanks 22 had been in use over the said period. At the end of the year all the tanks with the exception of four, two of which were to be renewed during alterations to the filling station, and two the use of which was discontinued, had been tested. Seventeen were tested pneumatically and one hydraulically. As a result of the tests one 1,000 gallon tank had to be renewed and five required minor repairs, either to the manhole cover or pipe line connections.

Secondly the coming into operation of the Petroleum Spirit (Conveyance by Road) Regulations, 1957, on 1st July greatly increased the responsibility of the Council as a licensing authority and added to the work of the department. In the past the main duties were the inspection and testing of new petroleum installations and the issuing of licences. The new regulations mean that regular routine inspections have to be made to all installations. Under the provisions of the regulations all tanks and dip-sticks have to be numbered and certificates have to be signed each time petrol is conveyed to the tanks. For the benefit and convenience of the licencees books of certificates are obtainable at the Public Health Department. By the end of the year all installations had been inspected and the regulations were being worked satisfactorily. Nearly all the tanks were numbered and the certificates were being used. In addition the regulations set out a code of safety and your inspector as petroleum officer is responsible for ensuring that this code is adhered to.

There is no doubt that in future this side of our activities will take more of your inspectors' time than ever before.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Public Health Department is responsible for the collection and disposal of all household refuse from premises in the district. In addition we collect and dispose of—free of charge—a certain amount of trade refuse from shops and other business premises. Over and above this, all refuse, rubbish, and road sweepings, from the Highway and Building Departments are dealt with at the controlled tip.

The work of collecting household refuse necessitates the making of 4,918 house to house calls and the handling of 5,054 bins each week, an increase of approximately 15% since 1949. There is no doubt that, as the district develops and conditions become more exacting, more time has to be spent on organisation and super-

vision. It is interesting to note that in spite of the growth of the district there has been no increase in the number of workmen over the past 15 years. The collection of household refuse is worked on a district system where the crew of each vehicle is responsible for a set section of the district. A weekly collection was maintained throughout the year.

The whole of the refuse collected during the year was disposed of by controlled tipping on land occupied by Messrs. Morgan Wall-works Ltd. at Higher Irlam. Disposal by controlled tipping consists of depositing the refuse in shallow layers and covering with suitable material as the work proceeds. Thirty-one tons of cinders are used each month for this purpose. The operating of a tip so near to the main road and occupied houses has emphasised the difficulty of finding suitable covering material, particularly for the sides of the tip. There is no doubt that when we return to our established tip at Cadishead which is now adjoining the Council's new housing estate very serious consideration will have to be given to providing suitable mechanical means for the purpose of covering and sealing the tip.

The staff of the Cleansing Department consists of three drivers, nine loaders, and two tip men. The department also maintains three S.D. freighters purchased in 1947, 1950, and 1955 respectively.

During the year the following dustbins were supplied by the department:

Supplied under the bin replacement scheme	...	272
Supplied to new Council houses	... ..	108
Resold privately	... ..	17
Total	... ..	397

Due to the imposed quota for the disposal of waste paper the collection of salvage has remained constant over the past four years—the figures for 1957 are almost identical to the two previous years.

CLEANSING COSTS AND STATISTICS

Total weight of household refuse collected.	Disposed of by					
controlled tipping	...	...	...	...	...	6,646 tons
Population	...	...	...	...	...	14,880.
Number of houses and premises...	...	...	...	...	...	4,918.
Approximate number of bins emptied each cycle	...	...	...	...	...	5,054.
Average length of haul	...	...	...	...	...	1½—2 miles.

Net expenditure :

(a) Collection	...	...	£8,364
(b) Disposal	...	...	£1,336
(c) Provision of Dustbins	...		£ 593
(d) Salvage	...	...	£2,046

£12,339

Less income from Salvage

£2,117

£10,222

Net cost per ton :

(a) Collection (including salvage)	£1 4s. 11d. }	£1 9s. 0d.
(b) *Disposal	4s. 1d. }	

Net cost per 1,000 population :

(a) Collection (including salvage)	£557 6s. 6d. }	£647 2s. 2d.
(b) *Disposal	£89 15s. 8d. }	

* No allowance made for Trade Refuse, Road Sweepings, and other waste material brought for disposal by the Highways Department and other persons.

NOTE: The above figures relate to the financial year 1957-1958.

SALVAGE FIGURES.

The details of material collected and sold during the year ended 31st December, 1957 are as follows:

				T. C. Q.		£	s.	d.
Paper	...	...	...	247 14 0	...	2011	7	7
Textiles	...	...	...	5 15 1	...	97	19	3
Metals	...	...	...	15 13 0	...	67	9	10
Bottles, jars etc....	...		...	1 17 3	...	11	10	0
TOTALS	...	...	...	<u>271 0 0</u>	...	<u>2,188</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>

The following are the figures for 1957 as compared with the three previous years:

	1954	1955	1956	1957
	T. c. q.	T. c. q.	T. c. q.	T. c. q.
Paper	241 4 1	258 7 2	257 10 1	247 14 0
Textiles	8 4 3	8 12 2	6 7 1	5 15 1
Metals	8 8 0	14 5 0	10 16 0	15 13 0
Tins	—	6 7 3	—	—
Bottles, jars, etc.	1155 doz.	701 doz.	468 doz.	386 doz.
Gross income	<u>£1,801</u>	<u>£2,307</u>	<u>£2,218</u>	<u>£2,188</u>

Summary of the district salvage efforts							
Year	Weight tons cwt. qr.			Increased Collection Allowance £	Bonus on Paper £	Prize Waste Paper Contest £	Value £
1942	168	11	3	—	—	—	659
1943	174	10	0	—	—	—	787
1944	99	10	1	—	—	—	612
1945	83	10	0	—	—	—	468
1946	102	19	1	11	—	—	409
1947	129	15	1	15	—	—	463
1948	129	6	0	27	—	—	633
1949	191	1	0	57	—	—	979
1950	171	15	1	—	17	—	1069
1951	221	4	0	—	54	50	3106
1952	212	13	0	—	—	—	2109
1953	233	11	0	—	—	—	1679
1954	263	10	1	—	—	—	1801
1955	291	1	2	—	—	—	2307
1956	276	19	2	—	—	—	2218
1957	271	0	0	—	—	—	2188
	3020	18	0	110	71	50	21487
£21,718							

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	29
Animals so kept	...	...	...	...	...	16
Atmospheric pollution	...	...	...	...	...	167
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dirty houses	...	...	...	...	...	12
Drainage, public sewers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	129
Dwelling houses—complaints etc. (including revisits)	...	...	...	...	...	659
Factories Act, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	152
Food Sampling and Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	9
Food Premises: Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	16
Canteens and Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	31
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	78
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	11
Meat Shops	...	...	...	...	...	47
Milk and Dairies Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	75
Manufacturers Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	...	29
Others	...	...	...	...	...	258
Housing: Council House Applications	...	...	...	...	...	10
Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	102
Rent Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	24
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	7
Infectious Disease: Visits to households	...	...	...	...	...	345
Other visits	...	...	...	...	...	52
Infestations cockroaches, woodbeetle, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	49
Interviews with owners, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	124
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	23
Mortuary	...	...	...	...	...	27
National Assistance Act	...	...	...	...	...	5
Offices	...	...	...	...	...	4
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	88
Public Cleansing: Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	242
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	108
Other	...	...	...	...	...	97
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	170
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	10
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	465
Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	31
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	3719

